

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

July 23, 2014

Pastor's Pen

Plans and Planning

I had planned to write this column yesterday, but life circumstances took me to Atlanta for the day; plans change. I am okay with that, however, I am sensitive to the timeline by which Jan operates in the production of this newsletter. Changed plans invariably affect more than one person.

We have had quite a few changed plans with regard to our building renovation and expansion project at Crievewood. The scope, the details, the timing, the cost have all shifted; no doubt, further changes are in our future even as the project is underway. Yet, and this is the most important consideration, our reason for the project has not changed.

We are doing necessary work to the existing building, being good stewards of property and resources that have served this congregation well in the past and are instrumental for our ministry into the future. Moreover, we are realizing phase 1 of our vision to enhance our outreach ministry and fellowship life through additions such as an elevator, and reconfiguration of our childcare rooms. Life is good.

Let me return to the theme of planning though. I am reminded of a quote by General Dwight Eisenhower, "In war plans are useless, but planning is indispensable." We can discuss later the theology of being at war with evil forces in the world and whether that renders plans useless; however, what I appreciate about Eisenhower's insight is the organic and essential nature of planning. As a faith community we share in a corporate call that demands thoughtful and prayerful action steps, which brings me back to the matter of our reason for the building renovation and expansion project.

Believing that God moved in the hearts of people to establish Crievewood UMC, I also believe God has moved in our hearts to build upon the commitment required to be faithful to God's purpose for this church. Plans may (most likely will) change some more as we complete the current project, and if and when we turn our attention to the other phases. Nevertheless, it is truly exciting to join with the movement of the Holy Spirit.

The changed plans impact all of us, but the planning has been indispensable and the purpose remains solid, sound, and secure. God wants us to be a vital congregation at the corner of Hogan and Marchant; a pure witness to the love of God for all people, a holy community in mission and ministry to the world, a distinct fellowship immersed in the means of grace, and a safe place for anyone who enters this space. That is a sublime privilege, and together we are ever planning to please God by giving ourselves to God's purposes.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

Chancel Choir

Adult choir rehearsals will resume in August on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. Our first rehearsal back will be Wednesday, August 6th. If you have been considering joining the adult choir, this would be a perfect time to join. Come be a part of an amazing group and help lead worship on Sunday mornings. If you have additional questions, please email Will Lambert at willl@wcs.edu.

Summer Meet and Eat

Please join members of Crievewood each Wednesday during the summer at a local restaurant for dinner. Everyone is welcome; participants should arrive at the restaurant at 5:00 p.m. and should arrange their own transportation.

Plans are a little different on **July 23**. We will carpool and travel to Nolensville to eat at **Nana's**. We will leave Crievewood Wednesday at **4:00 p.m.** Please let Nancy Rosdeutscher know if you need a ride or if you are willing to drive that evening.

On **July 30** we will meet at **Longhorn's in the Target Shopping Center at 5:00 p.m.**, and on **August 6** we will meet in **Brentwood at Ruby Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.**

Missions

AIM Fall Trip to Mountain T.O.P.

Make your plans now to be part of the CUMC adult fall mission trip to Mountain Top. The dates for this year's trip are **October 16-19**. Our mission team will work hard fulfilling the physical and spiritual needs of the residents of the Cumberland Mountains, will enjoy good food and Christian fellowship, and will feel the presence of our Lord and Savior as they serve and praise Him. This is often an experience that transforms the volunteer as well as the beneficiary. Don't miss out. For more information call Joe Buffler at 615-351-0601.

Charlie's Caramel Corn

Charlie is bringing back his famous caramel corn to help raise money for youth missions. You can purchase this treat for a minimum price of \$5 a bag on Sunday, August 10.

Crievewood Kids' Sunday School Ministry Team--Volunteers Needed!

In a recent seminar regarding volunteers in children's ministry, the speaker gave statistical evidence people will volunteer more often if they know what to expect. Since we are creating our children's **Sunday School ministry team for the 2014-15 school year**, we thought it would be a GREAT time to let you know what you can expect from us:

1. Sound, Biblically based curriculum especially designed for the group you are leading.
2. Set hours: Sunday mornings from 9:15 until 10:35. You get to pick the pre-class prep time that works best with your schedule since much of it can be done at home. We also have volunteers willing to help cut, punch out, and assist in prepping materials for your lesson if needed.
3. Resources: Our supply closet is stocked, and if you need something that is not available, with one week's notice, we can get it for you.
4. Team Teaching approach where two or three individuals/couples lead one class and set their own annual schedules/decide which Sundays they can lead.
5. Lots of love and appreciation from the children and their parents.

If you would like to serve on our Crievewood Kids' Sunday School Ministry Team, please contact Leigh Ann Cate at 833-4528 or by e-mail at lac723@comcast.net prior to July 31. The more volunteers who agree to love on our kids, the lighter the load!

Activities

Farmin' in the Hall

Fresh produce is available every Thursday this summer from 5-7:30 p.m. at CHNA's farmers' market at Crievewood. Please come and visit us. The market accepts SNAP benefits and strives to make fresh, healthy food available for everyone. A portion of the proceeds help to support Crievewood Child Care and Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

CHNA needs volunteers to help set up and break down the market each Thursday. If you can help please contact Marcilee Morgan at marcileemorgan@gmail.com or Kate Cortner.

JOY Club

The JOY Club is a group of mainly older adults meeting monthly for an outing that includes a Dutch treat meal and an experience at a location in Middle Tennessee.

On **Thursday, July 24**, members will visit Maury County for another *Mystery Lunch* and tour the Rippavila Plantation. The guided tour costs \$8 per person. The clue for the mystery lunch is "red and green". Participants will depart from the church at 10:00 a.m.

The final summer *Mystery Lunch* is on **Thursday, August 28**, in Sumner County. The clue is "red and brown". Bring extra money to shop. There is also a tour of Rock Castle in Hendersonville arranged. Assemble at the church by 10:15 a.m. Reservations should be made with Jean McCurdy by August 24.

On **Thursday, September 25**, JOY Club will visit Miss Bobo's Boarding House. **Reservations are due by September 10.** A check of \$21 should be made out to CUMC and given to Jean McCurdy.

Also in September, members are invited to lunch and a concert on **September 29** at Belmont UMC. The concert, "Gershwin in Blue", will be performed by Shawn Knight. The cost is \$10 per person. A check, **due by August 24**, should be made out to the church and given to Jean.

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, July 23

Join us in the Searchers classroom at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings for an 9-week study of I and II Thessalonians. The video portion of the study is led by best-selling Bible study author, Beth Moore, and the study is designed for personal study through daily homework, as well as group discussion. Member books, entitled "Children of the Day," may be purchased through Lifeway bookstores or www.lifeway.com. The first week is the introductory video, so come on and join us, even without your workbook! Questions? Contact Leigh Ann Cate.

Emergency Training

God calls us to love and care for each other, and being prepared for emergency is part of the ministry of caring and healing. If you are interested in a class to learn or renew emergency skills, please contact the church office or Nancy Rosdeutscher.

Youth

Christian Adventure Week

Christian Adventure week will be held July **28th-August 3rd**. It is open to any youth currently going into 7th grade through the class of 2014.

This years schedule includes:

- Monday - The Amazing Race
- Tuesday - Dinner and a Movie
- Wednesday - Canoeing
- Friday/Saturday - Day at the Lake
- Sunday - Youth Group Kick-off

The week will be loads of fun, and it is a great opportunity to get started with the youth group for the first time. See Steph for more information and to sign-up.

Children's Corner

Nursery Schedule

7/27/14
8/3/14

8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift
Craig and Blake Leyers
Chuck and Betsy Bean

10:30 a.m.-noon Shift
Bekah Cates
Kristy Thornton

August Dates to Note

August 10--Promotion Sunday

August 23--Back to School Bash at the Beans'

Other Items

Changes

If you are a college student, a new resident, or a member who has just moved or dropped your telephone land line, please remember to submit any new address, email, or cell phone number to the church office to help us maintain good communication. Thank you!

Altar Flowers

If you would like to celebrate God's grace in your life and enhance Sunday worship, consider donating flowers for the altar. The Altar Flower calendar is posted in the upstairs educational hallway on the wall above the children's clipboards. If you would like to offer the gift of altar flowers, just sign the chart for your selected week, and you will be contacted.